

10/562099

Express Mail Label No.: EV634230931US

JC10 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 DEC 2005

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Regards to New Patent Application for:

Applicant : Darin Evans et al.  
Title : BUMPER SYSTEM INCORPORATING  
THERMOFORMED ENERGY ABSORBER  
  
Docket No. : SHA01 P-360  
Customer No. : 000,277

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)**

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08a. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing of the above referenced application.

A copy of the listed foreign patent document was previously submitted in a prior PCT application, Serial No. PCT/2003039803, upon which Applicants rely for the benefits provided in 35 U.S.C. §120. As the Office has waived the requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication, a copy of each of the listed U.S. patents and each U.S. patent application publication document is not included with the submission of attached Form PTO/SB/08a. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

Applicant : Darin Evans et al.  
Page : 2

10/562099  
JC10 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 DEC 2005

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

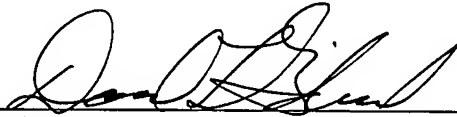
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 16-2463.

Respectfully submitted,

Price, Heneveld, Cooper,  
DeWitt & Litton LLP

12/21/05  
Date

  
Daniel L. Girdwood  
Registration No. 34,827  
695 Kenmoor, S.E.  
Post Office Box 2567  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49501  
(616) 949-9610

DLG/dlc

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number 10/562099  
Filing Date  
First Named Inventor Darin Evans et al.  
Art Unit  
Examiner Name  
Attorney Docket Number SHA01 P-360

Sheet 1 of 4

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 3938841	02/02/1976	Glance et al.	
		US- 6609740	08/26/2003	Evans	
		US- 6644701	11/11/2003	Weissenborn et al.	
		US- 6681907	01/01/2004	Le	
		US- 6682128	01/27/2004	Carroll III et al.	
		US- 4076872	02/28/1978	Lewicki et al.	
		US- 3971583	07/27/1976	Kornhauser	
		US- 3695665	10/03/1972	Matsuura	
		US- 5042859	08/27/1991	Zhang et al.	
		US- 3782767	01/01/1974	Moore	
		US- 3782768	01/01/1974	Moore	
		US- 6375251	04/23/2002	Taghaddos	
		US- 6234526	05/22/2001	Song et al.	
		US- 5651569	07/29/1997	Molnar	
		US- 5431463	07/11/1995	Chou	
		US- 5106137	04/21/1992	Curtis	
		US- 4995659	02/26/1991	Park	
		US- 4890877	01/02/1990	Ashtiani-Zarandi et al.	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		WO 96/06288	08/24/1994	Lee		

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

## Complete if Known

Application Number	10/562099
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Darin Evans et al.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	SHA01 P-360

Sheet 2 of 4

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 4597601	07/01/1986	Manning	
		US- 4070052	01/24/1978	Ng	
		US- 4061385	12/06/1977	Schwartzberg	
		US- 4050689	09/27/1977	Barton et al.	
		US- 3902748	09/02/1975	Bank et al.	
		US- 3900222	08/19/1975	Muller	
		US- 3810668	05/14/1974	Kornhauser	
		US- 3747968	07/24/1973	Hornsby	
		US- 3768850	10/30/1973	Barton et al.	
		US- 3231454	01/25/1966	Williams	
		US- 5030501	07/09/1991	Colvin et al.	
		US- 5152023	10/06/1992	Graebe	
		US- 5243722	09/14/1993	Gusakov	
		US- 5596781	01/28/1997	Graebe	
		US- 4551379	11/05/1985	Kerr	
		US- 4533583	08/06/1985	May	
		US- 4427474	01/24/1984	Ottaviano	
		US- 4344536	08/17/1982	Oberhuber	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number 10/562099  
Filing Date  
First Named Inventor Darin Evans et al.  
Art Unit  
Examiner Name  
Attorney Docket Number SHA01 P-360

Sheet 3 of 4

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US- 4314865	02/09/1982	Ottaviano	
		US- 4287250	09/01/1981	Rudy	
		US- 4096306	06/20/1978	Larson	
		US- 3900356	08/19/1975	Koch et al.	
		US- 3885074	05/20/1975	Chandler	
		US- 3837991	09/24/1974	Evans	
		US- 3746605	07/17/1973	Dillon et al.	
		US- 3577305	05/04/1971	Hines et al.	
		US- 6247745	06/19/2001	Carroll III et al.	
		US- 6315339	11/13/2001	Devilliers et al.	
		US- 6443513	09/03/2002	Glance	
		US- 6435579	08/20/2002	Glance	
		US- 2002/0060462	05/23/2002	Glance	
		US- 6406079	06/18/2002	Tamada et al.	
		US- 2002/0005644	01/17/2002	Tamada et al.	
		US- 2003/0047952	03/13/2003	Trappe	
		US- 2002/014214	10/17/2002	Evans	
		US- 2002/0149213	10/17/2002	Weissenborn	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

## Complete if Known

Application Number **10/562099**  
 Filing Date  
 First Named Inventor **Darin Evans et al.**  
 Art Unit  
 Examiner Name  
 Attorney Docket Number **SHA01 P-360**

Sheet **4** of **4**

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 2002/0017805	02/14/2002	Carroll III et al.	
		US- 6406081	06/18/2002	Mahfet et al.	
		US- 5564535	10/15/1996	Kanianthra	
		US- 5951626	12/22/1998	McCorry et al.	
		US- 5356177	10/18/1994	Weller	
		US- 5141279	08/25/1992	Weller	
		US- 5098124	03/24/1992	Breed et al.	
		US- 4631221	12/23/1986	Disselbeck	
		US- 6017084	01/25/2000	Carroll III	
		US- 6199942	03/13/2001	Carroll III	
		US- 6679967	01/20/2004	Carroll III	
		US- 2002/0070584	06/13/2002	Carroll III	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.